

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, I believe I am an original first and sole (or joint) inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MAKING AN ABSORBENT COMPOSITE".

The specification was filed September 26, 2003 as U.S. Application No. 10/672,519.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56(a).

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

R. H. Hammer III	Reg. No. 31,764
R. Ashburg	Reg. No. 53,956

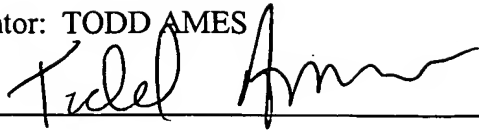
Correspondence should be sent to:

ROBERT H. HAMMER III, P.C.
3121 Springbank Lane
Suite I
Charlotte, NC 28226
Telephone: 704-927-0400
Facsimile: 704-927-0485

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first inventor: TODD AMES

Inventor's signature



Date:

1/17/04

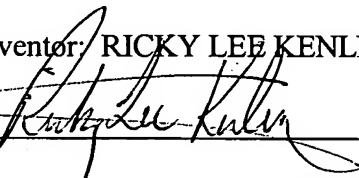
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Full name of second inventor: RICKY LEE KENLEY

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Date:

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Full name of third inventor: EDWARD J. POWERS

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Full name of fourth inventor: WILLIAM WEST

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Date:

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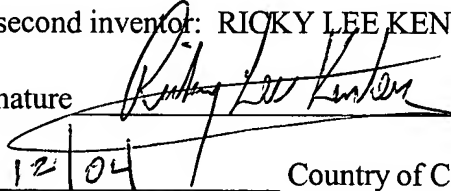
Full name of first inventor: TODD AMES

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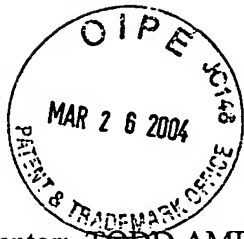
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Full name of third inventor: EDWARD J. POWERS

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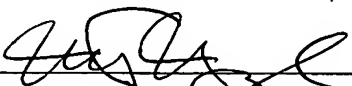
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Full name of fifth inventor: WILLIAM T. WYGAND

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Full name of sixth inventor: BOBBY R. LOMAX

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